

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

EDUARDO CEJA AYALA,

Petitioner,

v.

CURRENT OR ACTING FIELD OFFICE  
DIRECTOR, SAN FRANCISCO FIELD  
OFFICE, UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION  
AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT, et al.,

Respondents.

Case No. 1:25-cv-00463-EPG-HC

ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT'S  
MOTION TO DISMISS, DISMISSING  
PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS  
CORPUS AS MOOT, AND DIRECTING  
CLERK OF COURT TO CLOSE CASE

(ECF No. 16)

Petitioner is a federal immigration detainee proceeding *pro se* with a petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241. The parties have consented to the jurisdiction of a United States magistrate judge. (ECF Nos. 6, 14, 15.) For the reasons stated herein, the Court grants Respondent's motion to dismiss and dismisses the petition for writ of habeas corpus as moot.

**I.**

**BACKGROUND**

Petitioner is a native and citizen of Mexico. (ECF No. 16-1 at 2.<sup>1</sup>) On April 18, 2024, the United States Border Patrol encountered Petitioner entering or attempting to enter the United States. On May 2, 2024, Petitioner was transferred to Golden State Annex in McFarland,

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<sup>1</sup> Page numbers refer to ECF page numbers stamped at the top of the page.

California. (ECF No. 16-1 at 2.) On June 4, 2024, a notice to appear was issued, charging Petitioner with removability under section 212(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”) as an alien without valid entry documents. (Id. at 9.) On October 31, 2024, an immigration judge denied Petitioner’s applications for relief from removal and ordered Petitioner removed to Mexico. (Id. at 13–16.) On November 13, 2024, Petitioner filed an appeal with the Board of Immigration Appeals (“BIA”). (Id. at 2.)

On January 2, 2025, Petitioner filed the instant petition for writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. (ECF No. 1.) On April 18, 2025, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California issued an order transferring the petition to this Court. (ECF No. 7.) In the petition, Petitioner challenges his prolonged detention and requests a bond hearing. (ECF No. 1.)

On March 7, 2025, the BIA dismissed Petitioner’s appeal, and on March 13, 2025, Petitioner was removed from the United States to Mexico. (ECF No. 16-1 at 2, 19–20.) On June 23, 2025, Respondent filed a motion to dismiss the petition as moot. (ECF No. 16.) To date, no opposition to the motion to dismiss has been filed, and the time for doing so has passed.

## II.

### DISCUSSION

The jurisdiction of federal courts is limited to “actual, ongoing cases or controversies.” Lewis v. Continental Bank Corp., 494 U.S. 472, 477 (1990). “This case-or-controversy requirement subsists through all stages of federal judicial proceedings,” which “means that, throughout the litigation, the plaintiff ‘must have suffered, or be threatened with, an actual injury traceable to the defendant and likely to be redressed by a favorable judicial decision.’” Spencer v. Kemna, 523 U.S. 1, 7 (1998) (quoting Lewis, 494 U.S. at 477).

In the petition, Petitioner challenges his prolonged detention in immigration custody. (ECF No. 1.) On March 13, 2025, Petitioner was removed from the United States to Mexico. (ECF No. 16-1 at 2.) Given that Petitioner is no longer in immigration custody, the Court finds that no case or controversy exists and the petition is moot. See Abdala v. I.N.S., 488 F.3d 1061, 1065 (9th Cir. 2007) (finding habeas petition challenging length of immigration detention moot

1 because “there was no extant controversy for the district court to act upon” when petitioner was  
2 subsequently deported, “thereby curing his complaints about the length of his INS detention”).

3 **III.**

4 **ORDER**

5 Accordingly, the Court HEREBY ORDERS:

- 6 1. Respondent’s motion to dismiss (ECF No. 16) is GRANTED;  
7 2. The petition for writ of habeas corpus is DISMISSED as MOOT; and  
8 3. The Clerk of Court is DIRECTED to CLOSE the case.

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10 IT IS SO ORDERED.

11 Dated: **September 26, 2025**

12 /s/ Eric P. Grogan  
13 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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